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7 May 1998

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-second session
Agenda item 61
QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Letter dated 7 May 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government and further to my letter dated 4 May 1998 (A/52/885-S/1998/370), I have the honour to draw your attention to further violations of the airspace of the Republic of Cyprus and of the flight information region of Nicosia by military aircraft of the Turkish Air Force.

The new violations occurred on 6 May 1998, when two F-16 fighter aircraft of the Turkish Air Force entered the Nicosia flight information region at 1011 hours from a north-westerly direction, violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus north of the town of Kyrenia and exited the Nicosia flight information region at 1028 hours.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, I wish to strongly protest once more against these new violations of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus, which are in complete disregard of the Charter of the United Nations, the relevant decisions of the Organization on the question of Cyprus as well as the international civil aviation regulations.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 61, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Sotirios ZACKHEOS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

98-12640 (E) 070598

UNITED NATIONS **S**

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8 May 1998

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LETTER DATED 7 MAY 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF KENYA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to forward herewith, for your information, a copy of a communiqué issued by the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Ministerial Subcommittee, which met on the conflict in southern Sudan in Nairobi from 4 to 6 May 1998 (see annex).

I would be obliged if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Njuguna M. MAHUGU, OGW
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

98-12730 (E) 080598

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Annex

Communiqué issued in Nairobi on 6 May 1998 by the Ministerial Subcommittee of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development

1. At the invitation of the Government of Kenya, Ato Seyoum Mesfin, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia, Ato Haile Weldensae, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Eritrea and the Hon. Rebecca Kadaga, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs/Regional Cooperation of Uganda, met in Nairobi from 4 to 6 May 1998, under the chairmanship of the Hon. Dr. Bonaya Godana, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Kenya.

2. Also participating were Ambassador Ahmed Issa Gabobeh, representing the current Chairman of IGAD, and Dr. Kinfe Abraham, Director, Political and Humanitarian Affairs, of IGAD.

3. The delegation of the Government of the Sudan was led by Dr. Mustafa Osman, Minister for Foreign Affairs, while the delegation of the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A) was led by Commander Nhial Deng Nhial, Governor of Bahr el Ghazal.

4. The Subcommittee expressed profound appreciation for the agreement by the parties to the conflict to facilitate the free and unimpeded flow of humanitarian assistance to all areas affected by the famine in South Sudan. Without prejudice to that commitment, the Government of the Sudan offered a ceasefire and immediate cessation of hostilities and expects the other party to reciprocate and to facilitate further the unhindered flow of relief supplies. The SPLM/A is of the opinion that unhindered relief assistance to the needy should not be linked to a ceasefire and believes that a ceasefire, which it welcomes in principle, should be negotiated separately as per the Declaration of Principles. The Subcommittee also appeals to the international community to enlarge its humanitarian and relief assistance to mitigate the suffering of the famine-afflicted population of the Sudan.

5. The Subcommittee underlined the importance of the continued commitment of the Government of the Sudan and SPLM/A to the IGAD peace process based on the Declaration of Principles. The Subcommittee also welcomed the commitment of the Government of the Sudan and SPLM/A to continue to seek a negotiated settlement to the conflict in South Sudan within the IGAD framework.

6. The Subcommittee welcomed the agreement of the Government of the Sudan and SPLM/A on the recognition of the right of self-determination for the people of South Sudan, to be exercised through an internationally supervised referendum at the end of an interim period. The interim arrangement is to be negotiated and agreed upon by the two parties through the IGAD peace process. The people of South Sudan will determine their political destiny on two options, namely, unity or outright secession. However, the Subcommittee noted that the definition of the Government of the Sudan of the meaning of South Sudan encompasses the three provinces of Bahr el Ghazal, Equatoria and Upper Nile as recognized at independence in January 1956, while for the SPLM/A the right of self-determination is an inalienable democratic human and peoples right, which should

be exercised by the people of those areas plus Abyei, Southern Kordofan and Southern Blue Nile. These differences will be the subject of negotiation in the future.

7. On the question of State and religion, the Subcommittee regrets that the parties have been unable to reach a common ground, but welcomes their declared commitment to continue searching for an agreement.

8. The Subcommittee welcomed the supportive role of the IGAD Partners Forum and the international community to the IGAD peace process on South Sudan and urged them to continue to encourage the parties to the conflict to reach a peaceful settlement.

9. The Subcommittee underlined the importance of the mechanism of shuttle diplomacy as a means of narrowing the gap on outstanding issues and recommended its continuation.

10. The Subcommittee noted the complexity of the problem and the need to keep the peace dialogue between the parties to the conflict alive through all means possible, including renewed cycles of consultations. The parties to the conflict agreed to convene the third session of the peace negotiations in three months' time in Addis Ababa.

11. The Subcommittee expressed its appreciation to the Government and people of Kenya for hosting the peace talks and for the warm welcome and hospitality accorded to the delegations.

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SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Letter dated 7 May 1998 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter, dated 6 May 1998, addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Aytuğ Plümer, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 61, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Tuluy TANÇ
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

98-12769 (E) 110598

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ANNEX

Letter dated 6 May 1998 from Mr. Aytuğ Plümer
addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to refer to the letters dated 21, 27, 30 April and 4 May 1998 addressed to you by the Greek Cypriot representative at the United Nations, which contain allegations regarding violations of the airspace of the Republic" (A/52/875-S/1998/340, A/52/877-S/1998/348, A/52/880-S/1998/360 and A/52/885-S/1998/370, respectively).

I would like to recall that similar charges on so-called "airspace violations" were rejected in toto in our previous communications addressed to you, most recently in my letter dated 14 April 1998 (A/52/873-S/1998/328). Since the present Greek Cypriot charges are of the same nature, they do not merit a detailed reply. I wish to reiterate, however, that flights within the sovereign airspace of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus take place with the full knowledge and consent of the appropriate authorities of the State over which the usurper Greek Cypriot regime in the South has no jurisdiction or any right of say whatsoever.

This barrage of unfounded allegations by the Greek Cypriot side is aimed at providing a smokescreen for its policy of escalation and tension on the island. It is noteworthy, in this context, that the Greek Army Chief of Staff, Athanios Tzoganis, concluded a three-day visit to South Cyprus on 24 April 1998, during which he assured the Greek Cypriots that the so-called "joint military doctrine" will be expanded and stated that his departure from South Cyprus by way of flying out of the newly constructed "Andreas Papandreou" military airbase at Paphos symbolized Greece's commitment to the Greek Cypriot armed forces (Greek Cypriot press of 23 and 25 April 1998).

In a recent ceremony held in South Cyprus, Greek Cypriot leader, Mr. Glafcos Clerides, stated that the so-called "joint military doctrine" had added a new dimension to the Cyprus issue and praised the outgoing Commander of the Greek Cypriot National Guard, General Vorvolakos, for his efforts in materializing the "doctrine". For his part, Vorvolakos expressed his belief that "the way towards a political settlement and membership in the European Union passes through the barrel of guns and cannons, and through rocket-launchers", Vorvolakos further stated that, in the context of the "joint military doctrine", he was prepared to take up position in battle at the side of Mr. Clerides, whenever necessary (Greek Cypriot press of 29 April and 1 May 1998).

As a further provocation, the Greek Cypriot administration, which has destroyed all the parameters for a settlement in Cyprus through its unilateral application for membership in the European Union, in contravention of the 1960 Agreements, and which has raised the tension on the island to an all-time high through its decision to purchase the sophisticated S-300 missile system from Russia, has now also submitted an application for membership to the Western European Union. In doing so, with the active support of Greece, the Greek Cypriot side has taken yet another step in undermining the internal and external

balances established between the two peoples, on the one hand, and their respective motherlands Turkey and Greece, on the other, by the 1960 international Cyprus treaties.

This dangerous policy of escalation and tension being pursued by the Greek-Greek Cypriot camp, coupled with the destruction of the existing parameters for a settlement, poses a clear threat to peace and stability on the island, and the region at large. It is evident that the Greek Cypriot side has opted for confrontation rather than accommodation. All parties interested in a peaceful settlement of the Cyprus dispute must therefore press the Greek Cypriot administration to abandon this dangerous posture and seek a settlement based on the existing realities on the island.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 61, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Aytuğ PLÜMER
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

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THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY
MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION
CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE
INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONTROL

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Letter dated 8 May 1998 from the Permanent Representatives of the Russian Federation and Uzbekistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a joint statement by the Presidents of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Uzbekistan which was signed on 6 May 1998 during talks between the President of the Russian Federation, Mr. Boris Yeltsin, and the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Mr. Islam Karimov (see annex).

We should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and of its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 43, 81, 97, 103 and 104, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) S. V. LAVROV
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of the Russian Federation
to the United Nations

(Signed) A. V. VOHIDOV
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Uzbekistan
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Joint statement by the Presidents of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Uzbekistan, signed in Moscow on 6 May 1998

The President of the Russian Federation, Mr. Boris Yeltsin, and the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Mr. Islam Karimov, having thoroughly studied the status of relations and prospects for the development of all aspects of cooperation between the Russian Federation and Uzbekistan, and having held a thorough exchange of views on current international problems, state the following:

1. Relations between the Russian Federation and Uzbekistan are progressively developing on the basis of the principles of traditional friendship and good will, sovereign equality and mutual advantage, in accordance with the Treaty on the Foundations of Inter-State Relations, Friendship and Cooperation between the Russian Federation and the Republic of Uzbekistan of 30 May 1992 and the Declaration on the Development and Intensification of All-round Cocperation between the Russian Federation and the Republic of Uzbekistan of 2 March 1994.

Bilateral contacts and exchanges of delegations, including at the highest political level, are being intensified. Inter-Parliamentary links have been revitalized. The Intergovernmental Commission for Economic Cooperation has effectively commenced operations. The treaty and legal basis for Russian-Uzbek relations is being strengthened.

The leaders of the Russian Federation and Uzbekistan are convinced of the need for and see a real opportunity for further increasingly dynamic growth of multifaceted cooperation between the two countries in the context of strategic partnership.

The Russian Federation takes a favourable view of Uzbekistan's important role in the Central Asian region. Uzbekistan recognizes the strategic interests of the Russian Federation in Central Asia and considers that Russian participation in regional affairs promotes the maintenance of a political balance, economic development and the strengthening of regional security and stability. In this connection, greater cooperation between the Russian Federation and Uzbekistan which is consistent with the fundamental interests of both States is also a constructive element of international dimensions.

2. The Russian Federation and Uzbekistan attach the utmost significance to the expansion and deepening of mutually advantageous economic ties.

The Governments of the two countries have been instructed to prepare an agreement on intensifying economic cooperation between the Russian Federation and Uzbekistan for a 10-year period and a corresponding programme of action to provide for the creation of favourable conditions for the expansion of commercial and economic and scientific and technological ties, cooperation in the fuel and energy complex and the promotion of direct links between regions and economic agents.

There is a need to improve the legal regulation of commercial relations and to regulate the system of mutual settlements. The sides have instructed the Governments of the two countries and the Intergovernmental Commission for Economic Cooperation to ensure the necessary State support for these processes.

One of the most promising areas of cooperation is the creation of inter-State financial-industrial groups. It is important to accelerate the implementation of the intergovernmental agreement on the Ilyushin transnational group and cooperation in the production and marketing of IL-114, IL-114T and IL-76MF aircraft. The use of these aircraft on regular air transport routes should be considered a priority task in the relations between the partners in the area of high technology.

Highly promising prospects are opening up in this area with plans for the development, on a multilateral and bilateral basis, of the AN-70 and subsequent generations of aircraft.

The positive experience of partnership in the aircraft industry will be actively utilized to create financial-industrial groups in other areas.

The sides express their mutual interest in strengthening mutually advantageous ties between enterprises in the engineering and chemical industries and agro-industrial complexes, in developing industries for the processing of agricultural produce, and in opening trading houses.

Space research is another area of mutual interest. The sides have stepped up their joint efforts to establish the Suffa international radio astronomical observatory.

The Russian Federation acknowledges Uzbekistan's position in favour of the multimodal transport of gas and oil exports, including their transit through Russian territory, and confirms its readiness to continue to provide the relevant services in the requisite amounts and types.

3. Questions of military security and military and technical cooperation occupy an important place in Russian-Uzbek relations. The sides intend to develop relations of partnership in these spheres on the basis of bilateral agreements.

The deepening of mutual cooperation between the law-enforcement agencies of the two countries will help to strengthen Russian-Uzbek relations. It is planned to fine-tune cooperation in combating the illegal spread of narcotic drugs and the weapons trade, and in other aspects of law enforcement of interest to both countries.

4. The peoples of the Russian Federation and Uzbekistan are historically bound by indissoluble spiritual and cultural ties and their closely interwoven fates. This has made it necessary to develop cooperation in the areas of culture, science, education and information, and to encourage contacts between peoples and public organizations.

The relevant agencies have been instructed to study the question of regularizing the legal status of the citizens of one country who are permanent residents of the other country and the process of migration and protecting the rights of migrants.

The Russian side continues to be interested in opening consular facilities in Uzbekistan and affirms its readiness to take account of a corresponding desire from the Uzbek side.

5. The Russian Federation and Uzbekistan maintain identical or similar positions with regard to current international problems and intend to intensify constructive and systematic cooperation in the area of foreign policy both on a bilateral basis and within the framework of the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and other international organizations and forums. They consider that the United Nations has a key role in the maintenance of international peace and security; at the same time the importance of regional organizations in the settlement and prevention of inter-ethnic, religious and other conflicts between and within States is growing.

The Russian Federation favourably views the initiative put forward by Uzbekistan and supported by other Central Asian States to create a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region, and is prepared to promote it under the auspices of the United Nations, in accordance with international practice. The Russian Federation and Uzbekistan also support the establishment in other regions of zones free from nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction.

6. The Russian Federation and Uzbekistan reaffirm their commitment to the purposes and principles of the Commonwealth of Independent States as an integrating instrument for promoting the equal partnership of its members and mutually advantageous cooperation between them.

In the spirit of understanding reached at the meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the Commonwealth of Independent States held on 29 April 1998, the sides will endeavour to strengthen and enhance the effectiveness of their cooperation with a view to actualizing its creative potential more fully.

7. The sides expressed their principled commitment to the progress of Tajikistan in becoming a democratic secular State based on the rule of law. They noted with satisfaction the progress achieved in national reconciliation in Tajikistan following the signing in Moscow on 27 June 1997 of the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan. At the same time, the Russian Federation and Uzbekistan, as guarantor States of the General Agreement, express their concern that implementation of the inter-Tajik agreement, especially with regard to the reintegration, disarmament and disbanding of armed units of the United Tajik Opposition, has fallen significantly behind the agreed timetable.

Calling upon the participants in the peace process in Tajikistan for unconditional and scrupulous fulfilment of the obligations they have assumed, the Russian Federation and Uzbekistan attach importance to the intensification of cooperation on a bilateral basis and within the framework of international

efforts, including those undertaken by the United Nations and OSCE, in the interest of full and timely implementation of the General Agreement.

8. The sides expressed serious alarm at the explosive situation in Afghanistan. Further escalation of tension in that country, which may lead to the spread of religious extremism and terrorism, increased smuggling of weapons and narcotic drugs, and the exodus of refugees, poses a threat to the national interests and security of the States of the region.

The way to peace in Afghanistan lies in constructive dialogue between the opposing sides under the auspices of the United Nations and with the active cooperation of interested States through the creation of a broadly representative Government that will take into account the rule of law and the interests of all ethnic and religious groups and political forces.

The Russian Federation and Uzbekistan, supporting each other's initiatives and efforts, intend jointly to ensure the implementation by the various Afghan groups of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council and the immediate cessation of the prolonged conflict.

9. The Presidents expressed their satisfaction with the substance and results of the State visit by Mr. Karimov to the Russian Federation, which took place in the traditional atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding. They noted that the visit constituted a milestone in the relations between the two countries.

The President of Uzbekistan, Mr. Islam Karimov, invited the President of the Russian Federation, Mr. Boris Yeltsin, to pay a State visit to Uzbekistan. The invitation was gratefully accepted. The time of the visit will be agreed at a future date.

(Signed) B. YELTSIN
President of the Russian Federation

(Signed) I. KARIMOV
President of the Republic
of Uzbekistan

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LETTER DATED 8 MAY 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement issued on 1 May 1998 by the Presidency of the European Union on the Sudan.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) John WESTON
Permanent Representative
of the United Kingdom
to the United Nations

98-12912 (E) 110598 110598

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Annex

[Original: English and French]

Statement issued on 1 May 1998 by the Presidency of the European Union on the Sudan

The European Union is increasingly concerned about the worsening humanitarian crisis in Bahr al-Ghazal in southern Sudan and calls on the Government of the Sudan to give every assistance to the United Nations and non-governmental organizations to facilitate the delivery of food and other essential supplies.

The European Union considers that a sustainable political settlement is the only way forward to allow the Sudanese to rebuild their lives. The European Union fully supports the efforts of the countries of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development to broker a peace in the Sudan. The European Union urges all sides in the dispute to adopt a positive attitude and come to an agreement at the next session of the peace talks in Nairobi from 2 to 5 May. In order to enhance the chances of success of the talks and to end the suffering of the Sudanese people, the European Union calls on all parties to effect an immediate ceasefire.

The Central and Eastern European countries and Cyprus associated with the European Union and the countries of the European Free Trade Association, Iceland and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, align themselves with this statement.